If you wish to find out more about contemporary Germany in the European and global dynamics, join "GERMANY TODAY."

Through lectures, readings, fascinating films, and group discussions, this course explores:

1. Key political, social, economic, and cultural developments in contemporary Germany such as: Germany’s leading role in the EU; its relationship to both the United States and the Russian Federation; its role in the current crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine; its growing multi-ethnicity; the integration of refugees; the situation of minorities, including the Jewish minority; the rise of an extreme right-wing political party; efforts to learn from German history, in particular the Holocaust; civic movements to stop hate-crimes, racism, and anti-Semitism.

2. Modern and postmodern architecture and city planning.

3. Innovative artists from Anselm Kiefer to street artists.

4. Political singers from Wolf Biermann to rock bands such as “Die Toten Hosen.”

5. Authors from different countries who write in German such as Yoko Tawada from Japan and Rafik Shami from Syria;

6. Political film directors (Volker Schlöndorff, Margarethe von Trotta, Werner Herzog, Michael Verhoeven);

7. Scientific and technological achievements.

8. German fashion and German Fashion Kings such as Karl Lagerfeld.

9. The impact of Germanic myths, legends, and sagas upon contemporary culture.

10. Last but not least, the political and cultural role of soccer in contemporary Germany.

GER 1522 will be taught in English. It fulfills the Foreign Culture (International/Regional) requirement. It also counts towards the Western European Studies certificate. For further information please contact: PAXPEACE@PITT.EDU